

Heidi C. Pearson, *Curriculum vitae*

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Current Position

Assistant Professor of Marine Biology

Department of Natural Sciences

University of Alaska Southeast

Education

Ph.D., Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, 2008

Major: Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences

Dissertation: Patterns of association and fission-fusion sociality in dusky dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*), with comparisons to other dolphins and great apes

B.S., Duke University, Durham, NC, 1998

Majors: Biological Anthropology and Anatomy, Biology

Honors: Graduation with Distinction in Biological Anthropology and Anatomy

Certificate: Primatology

Concentration: Marine Biology

Career Appointments

2011-present Assistant Professor, Department of Natural Sciences, University of Alaska Southeast

2010-2011 Lecturer, School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, Stony Brook University

2008-2010 Assistant Director, Whale Center of New England

2009 Lecturer, Department of Biology, Northeastern University

2008 Lecturer, Department of Marine Biology, Texas A&M University at Galveston

2002-2008 Research Coordinator, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Texas Medical Branch

2003-2006 Teaching Assistant, Department of Marine Biology, Texas A&M University at Galveston

2001-2002 Teaching Assistant, Department of Biology, Texas A&M University

2000-2001 Teaching Assistant, Department of Biology, Drake University

1999-2001 Research Assistant, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

1999 Data Technician, Department of Psychiatry, Duke University Medical Center

1997-1998 Research Assistant, Department of Psychiatry, Duke University Medical Center

Academic Publications

Seven first-author publications and 11 co-authored publications for a total of 18 peer-reviewed journal publications and book chapters.

Würsig, B. and **Pearson, H.C.** In press. Dusky dolphins: flexibility in foraging and social strategies. In: Yamagiwa, J. and Karczmarski, L., editors. Primates and cetaceans: field research and conservation of complex mammalian societies. New York: Springer.

Pearson H.C., Vaughn-Hirschorn R.L., Srinivasan M., and Würsig B. 2012. Avoidance of mussel farms by dusky dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) in New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research*. 46: 567-574.

Srinivasan M., **Pearson H.C.**, Vaughn-Hirshorn R.L., Würsig B., and Murtugudde R. 2012. Using climate downscaling to hypothesize impacts on apex predator marine ecosystem dynamics. *New Zealand Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research* 46: 575-584.

Pearson, H.C., Dawson, L.N., and Radecki Breitkopf, C. 2012. Recycling attitudes and behavior among low-income Hispanics in southeast Texas. *PLOS One*
<http://dx.plos.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0034469>

Pearson, H.C. Sociability of female bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops* spp.) and chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*): understanding evolutionary pathways toward social convergence. 2011. *Evolutionary Anthropology* 20:85-95.

Finerty, S.E., **Pearson, H.C.**, and Davis, R.W. 2010. Interannual assessment of territory quality for male sea otters (*Enhydra lutris*) in Simpson Bay, Prince William Sound, Alaska. *Canadian Journal of Zoology* 88:289-298.

Pearson, H.C., and Shelton, D.E. 2010. A large-brained social animal. Pp. 333-353 in: Würsig, B., and Würsig, M., editors. *The Dusky Dolphin: Master Acrobat off Different Shores*. San Diego, CA: Elsevier, Inc.

Weir, J., Deutsch, S., and **Pearson, H.C.** 2010. Calf-rearing: dangers and opportunities. Pp. 177-209 in: Würsig, B., and Würsig, M., editors. *The Dusky Dolphin: Master Acrobat off Different Shores*. San Diego, CA: Elsevier, Inc.

Pearson, H.C. 2009. Influences on dusky dolphin (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) fission-fusion dynamics in Admiralty Bay, New Zealand. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 63:1437-1446.

Radecki Breitkopf, C., and **Pearson, H.C.** 2009. A theory-based approach to understanding follow-up of abnormal Papanicolaou tests. *Journal of Health Psychology* 14: 361-371.

Radecki Breitkopf, C., **Pearson, H.C.**, Dinh, T.A., Bich-Chieu, T., Tran, B.S., Vu, T., Bao Phan, G.A., Ngo, Q.V., Tran, V.D., and Rosenthal, S.L. 2009. Human Papillomavirus vaccine decision making in Da Nang, Vietnam: anticipated spousal and adolescent-parent concordance. *Vaccine* 27: 2367-2371.

Gilkinson, A.K., **Pearson, H.C.**, Weltz, F., and Davis, R.W. 2007. Photo-identification of sea otters using nose scars. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 71: 2045-2051.

Kornblau, I.S., **Pearson, H.C.**, and Radecki Breitkopf, C. 2007. Demographic, behavioral, and physical correlates of body esteem among low-income female adolescents. *Journal of Adolescent Health* 41: 566-570.

Navarro Rubio, R., **Pearson, H.C.**, Clark, A.A., and Radecki Breitkopf, C. 2007. Satisfaction with care among low-income female outpatients. *Psychology, Health, and Medicine* 12: 334-345.

Pearson, H.C., Packard, J.M., and Davis, R.W. 2006. Territory quality of male sea otters in Prince William Sound, Alaska: relation to body and territory maintenance behaviors. *Canadian Journal of Zoology* 84: 939-946.

Slomovitz, B.M., Sun, C.C., Frumovitz, M., Soliman, P.T., Schmeler, K.M., **Pearson, H.C.**, Berenson, A., Ramirez, P.T., and Lu, K.H. 2006. Are women ready for the HPV vaccine? *Gynecologic Oncology* 103: 151-154.

Pearson, H.C., and Davis, R.W. 2005. Behavior of territorial male sea otters in Prince William Sound, Alaska. *Aquatic Mammals* 31: 226-233.

Radecki Breitkopf, C., **Pearson, H.C.**, and Breitkopf, D.M. 2005. Poor knowledge regarding the Pap test among low-income women undergoing annual screening. *Perspectives in Sexual and Reproductive Health* 37: 78-84.

Manuscripts under Review

Pakpour, A.H., Zeidi, I., Emamjomeh, M.M., Asefzadeh, S., and **Pearson, H.** Household waste behaviours among a community sample in Iran: an application of the Theory of Planned Behaviour. Submitted to *Waste Management*.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Deutsch, S., **Pearson, H.C.**, and Würsig, B. Development of leaps in dusky dolphin (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) calves. In preparation for *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology*.

Pearson H.C., Markowitz, T.M., Weir, J.S., and Würsig, B. Social fluidity and preferred associations in dusky dolphin (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) social structure. In preparation for *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology*.

Other Publications

Eckert, G.L., and **Pearson, H.** “My turn: growing sea otter population in Southeast Alaska focus of upcoming symposium”. Editorial in the Juneau Empire, 2/15/2013. Available at: <http://juneauempire.com/outdoors/2013-02-15/my-turn-growing-sea-otter-population-southeast-alaska-focus-upcoming-symposium#.USqSHzejY-M>

Pearson, H. 2009. “Our blue world”. Bi-weekly column in the Gloucester Daily Times.

Pearson, H. 2007. The otters of untamed Alaska. In: Cresswell, G., Walker, D., and Pusser, T., editors. *Whales & Dolphins of the North American Pacific (Including Seals and Other Marine Mammals)*. Hampshire, UK: Wild Guides Ltd. pp. 188-190.

Kanga, E.M., and **Mennenga (Pearson’s maiden name), H.C.** 1999-2000. Survey of the Angolan black-and-white colobus monkey, *Colobus angolensis palliatus*, in the Diani Forests,

Kenya. *African Primates: The Newsletter of the Africa Section of the IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group* 4(1-2): 50–54.

Oral and Poster Presentations with Abstracts

Five first-author and five co-author oral presentations for a total of ten oral presentations with abstracts. Three of the ten oral presentations were invited and eight were at an international venue. Four first-author and five co-author poster presentations with abstracts. Total oral and poster presentations with abstracts: 19. (* indicates presenter, § indicates student advisee)

Barlow, K.M.*§, **Pearson, H.C.**, and Straley, J. 2013. Activity budgets and foraging ecology of sea otters (*Enhydra lutris*) in Sitka, AK. Poster presentation at the Sea Otter Conservation Workshop VIII, Seattle, WA, March 22-24, 2013.

Grundy, J.*, House, D.*§, Cartwright, C., and **Pearson, H.** Comparing humpback whale group dynamics between the feeding and breeding grounds to create connectivity in research, education, and conservation. Poster presentation at the 13th International Conference of the American Cetacean Society. San Diego, CA, November 9-11, 2012.

Pearson, H.C.*, Vaughn, R.L., Srinivisan, M., Würsig, B., and Murtugudde, R. Managing for robustness: potential effects of climate change and mussel farming on dusky dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) in Admiralty Bay, New Zealand. Oral presentation at the 19th Biennial Conference of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, Tampa, Florida, November 27-December 2, 2011.

Pearson, H.C.*, Vaughn, R.L., Srinivisan, M., Markowitz, T.M., and Würsig, B. Managing for robustness: potential effects of climate change and mussel farming on dusky dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) in Admiralty Bay, New Zealand. Oral presentation at the 24th Conference of the European Cetacean Society, Stralsund, Germany, March 22-24, 2010.

Finerty, S.E.*, **Pearson, H.C.**, and Davis, R.W. Territory size and quality for male sea otters (*Enhydra lutris*) in Simpson Bay, Prince William Sound, Alaska. Poster presentation at the 18th Conference of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, Quebec, Canada, October 10-17, 2009.

Pearson, H.C.*, Markowitz, T.M., Weir, J.S., McFadden, C.J., and Würsig, B. Fission-fusion social structure of dusky dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*): social fluidity and preferred associations in a semi-pelagic species. Oral presentation at the 18th Biennial Conference of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, Quebec, Canada, October 10-17, 2009.

Radecki Breitkopf, C.*, **Pearson, H.C.**, Dinh, T.A., Bich-Chieu, T., Tran, B.S., Vu, T., Bao Phan, G.A., Ngo, Q.V., Tran, V.D., and Rosenthal, S.L. Human papillomavirus vaccine decision making in Da Nang, Vietnam: Anticipated spousal and adolescent-parent concordance. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine* 37:S110, Suppl. Oral presentation at the Society of Behavioral Medicine's 30th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, April 22-25, 2009.

Amin, H.L., **Pearson, H.C.***, and Würsig, B. Leaping behavior is related to increase in group size and feeding behavior of dusky dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) in Admiralty Bay, New

Zealand. Poster presentation at the 17th Biennial Conference of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, Cape Town, South Africa, November 29-December 3, 2007.

Finerty, S.E.*, **Pearson, H.C.**, and Davis, R.W. Behavior of male sea otters (*Enhydra lutris*) in Prince William Sound, Alaska. Poster presentation at the 17th Biennial Conference of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, Cape Town, South Africa, November 29-December 3, 2007.

Pearson, H.C.* and Würsig, B. Influence of food availability, predation, and marine farming on dusky dolphin (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) fission-fusion sociality in Admiralty Bay, New Zealand. Poster presentation at the 17th Biennial Conference of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, Cape Town, South Africa, November 29-December 3, 2007.

Pearson, H.C.*. Social convergence between bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops* sp.) and chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes*): focus on female reproductive strategies. Oral presentation at the Comparative Ecological Research Symposium, Cape Town, South Africa, November 28, 2007.

Pearson, H.C.*, Gailey, G., and Würsig, B. Finscan as a tool to match dolphin dorsal fin images. Oral presentation at the Recent Advances in Digital Techniques workshop. Cape Town, South Africa, November 27, 2007.

Pearson, H.C.*, and Davis, R.W. Behavior of territorial male sea otters (*Enhydra lutris*) in Prince William Sound, Alaska. Poster presentation at the 16th Biennial Conference of the Society for Marine Mammalogy. San Diego, CA, December 12-16, 2007.

Würsig, B.*, and **Pearson, H.** Delphinid behavioral strategies. Oral presentation at the Ninth International Mammalogical Congress, Symposium: Delphinid and Primate Social Ecology: a Comparative Overview. Sapporo, Japan, July 31-August 5, 2005.

Pearson, H.*, Würsig, B., and Pruetz, J. Understanding social convergence between dolphins and great apes: where do we start? Poster presentation at the Kyoto Conference: Delphinid and Primate Social Ecology. Kyoto, Japan, July 29-30, 2005.

Würsig, B.*, **Pearson, H.**, and Markowitz, T. Delphinid behavioral flexibilities: social strategies in dusky dolphins. Oral presentation at the Kyoto Conference: Delphinid and Primate Social Ecology. Kyoto, Japan, July 29-30, 2005.

Slomovitz, B.M.*, Sun, C.C., Frumovitz, M., Soliman, P.T., **Pearson, H.C.**, Berenson, A., and Bodurka, D.C. Are women ready for the cervical cancer vaccine? Oral presentation at the 2005 Annual Meeting on Women's Cancer, Society of Gynecologic Oncologists. Miami Beach, FL, March 19-23, 2005.

Davis, R.*, Gilkinson, A., **Pearson, H.**, and Weltz, F. Feeding ecology of sea otters in Simpson Bay, Alaska. Oral presentation at the Alaska Sea Otter Research Workshop, Alaska Sea Grant, 2004.

Pearson, H.C.*, and Davis, R.W. A cost-benefit analysis for territorial male sea otters in Prince William Sound, Alaska. Poster presentation at the 15th Biennial Conference of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, Greensboro, NC, December 15-19, 2003.

Invited Seminars

Who's who? On the trail of marine mammals in the Pacific using photo-identification. 2013 Juneau Marine Naturalist Symposium, University of Alaska Southeast. May 10, 2013.

Costly Kids? Examining female behavior to test the social intelligence hypothesis in cetaceans. Seminar, School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, University of Alaska Fairbanks. February 24, 2012.

Fission-fusion dynamics in New Zealand dusky dolphins: flexible social strategy in response to prey, predation risk, and mussel farms". Seminar, Marine Biology Program, University of Alaska Southeast. November 1, 2010.

Tracking North Atlantic whales. School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences Public Lecture Series, Stony Brook Southampton. May 7, 2010.

Behavioral ecology of dusky dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) in New Zealand. Seminar, School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences Friday Colloquium Series, Stony Brook University. March 5, 2010.

Lord of the dolphins: the social lives of dusky dolphins in New Zealand. Seminar, Biology and Physics Department, Kennesaw State University. February 18, 2010.

Fission-fusion dynamics in dusky dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*). Seminar, Department of Human Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University. October 26, 2009.

Research Grants

Principal Investigator: IOS Preliminary Proposal: RUI: Does the Social Intelligence Hypothesis Apply Only to Females? A Comparison of Sociality between Sexes and Species. Submitted 1/18/2013 to NSF.

Principal Investigator: LTREB Preliminary Proposal: RUI: Quantifying Influences on Long-term Grouping Patterns in Dusky Dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*). Submitted 1/10/2013 to NSF.

Principal Investigator: Ecological Consequences of Sea Otter (*Enhydra lutris*) Range Expansion on Kelp Forest Ecosystems in Southeast Alaska. Submitted 12/14/2012 to the North Pacific Research Board. \$259,255.

Principal Investigator: Does Corticosterone Mediate the Behavioral Response of Humpback Whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) to Natural Sources of Environmental Stress? Invited proposal submitted 9/14/2012 to the Office of Naval Research, Marine Mammals and Biology Program. \$729,240.

Co-Investigator: Marine mammal strandings on Massachusetts' North Shore: enhancement of response, data quality, public education, and outreach. John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program (NOAA). \$60,004. Awarded September 1, 2009-August 31, 2010.

Courses Taught

Cetacean Behavior and Behavioral Ecology (lab)
Current Topics in Marine Mammalogy (seminar)
Ecosystem Ecology and the Global Environment (lecture)
Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II (lecture and lab)
Introduction to Biology I and II (lecture and lab)
Marine Birds and Mammals (lecture and lab)
Marine Mammal Field Research Methods (lecture and lab)
Marine Mammalogy (lecture and lab)
Marine Ornithology and Herpetology (lecture)
Prospects for Planet Earth (lecture)
Tropical Marine and Coastal Ecology (field course in Puerto Rico)

Press

“Otter study to assess habitat differences in Southeast”. KCAW Raven Radio, June 29, 2012. Available at: <http://www.kcaw.org/2012/06/29/otter-study-to-examine-habitat-differences-in-southeast/>

“Chimps and dolphins share cultural similarities”. Wired Science, July 5, 2011. Available at: <http://www.wired.com/wiredscience/2011/07/chimpanzees-dolphins-similar>

“What can the behavior of chimps and dolphins tell us about human moms?” Science and Religion Today, July 12, 2011. Available at: <http://www.scienceandreligiontoday.com/2011/07/12/what-can-the-behavior-of-female-chimps-and-dolphins-tell-us-about-human-moms/>

Honors and Awards

UAS Academic Innovation Fund Award. \$2,000 award to study the integration of anatomy, medical education, art, and history along the Italian Peninsula. 2012.

Erma Lee and Luke Mooney Graduate Student Research Excellence Award: Texas A&M University at Galveston. 2008

Tom Slick Senior Graduate Fellowship: College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station. 2007

Academic Excellence Scholarship: Texas A&M University, College Station. 2002-2007

W.B. Davis Scholarship: Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station. 2006

Photography in Research Award: Office of Graduate Studies, Texas A&M University, College Station. 2004

Editorial Service

Reviewer: Aquatic Mammals (journal)
Canadian Journal of Zoology (journal)
Journal of Animal Ecology (journal)
Marine Mammal Science (journal)
The Dusky Dolphin: Master Acrobat off Different Shores (book)

Photo Credits

Dusky dolphin photos in: Würsig, B., and Würsig, M. 2010. *The Dusky Dolphin: Master Acrobat off Different Shores*. San Diego, CA: Elsevier, Inc.

Dusky dolphin and sea otter photos in: Perrin, W.F., Würsig, B, and Thewissen, J.G.M. 2008. *Encyclopedia of Marine Mammals*, 2nd edn. San Diego, CA: Elsevier Press.

Sea otter photos in: Cresswell, G., Walker, D., and Pusser, T., editors. 2007. *Whales & Dolphins of the North American Pacific (Including Seals and Other Marine Mammals)*. Hampshire, UK: Wild Guides Ltd.

Sea otter photo used for the cover of *Science Editor*, 2006, volume 29, issue 6.

Professional Societies

American Cetacean Society, 2012-present
Human Anatomy and Physiology Society, 2012-present
Society for Marine Mammalogy, 2003-present